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CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL** / CONTROL / US OFFICIALS ONLYCOUNTRY RumaniaREPORT NO. TOPIC Soviet Troops in the Banat and in Fiiiasi**RETURN TO CIA
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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 19 July 1950REFERENCES PAGES 3ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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Timisoara (R 16/T 91)

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1. Two waves of fighters and light bombers, each wave with 60 to 100 aircraft, flew over Timisoara between 3 and 4 a.m. on 21 June 1950. The aircraft came from the south-east and proceeded toward Arad (R 16/U 16), where they remained. (1)
2. A radio station was being set up in the area south of the cemetery on the northern outskirts of Timisoara. The cemetery is between the highways to Arad and Lipoval (R 16/U 34). No data on the radio station were given. (2)
3. On 27 June 1950 building materials were shipped to Ciacova (R 16/Y 88), and the construction of concrete emplacements, reported as strong casements, was started. A munition shipments were observed in that area. (3)

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Arad

4. Soviet troops were quartered in the Arad fortress and the barracks north of the Aradul Nou railroad station about 25 June 1950. The units held daily exercises near the town. They also participated in exercises with the Soviet units stationed in Timisoara and Lipova. Such exercises had already been observed between 6 and 13 June 1950.

5.

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Lipova Radna

6. Soviet troops, assigned to the headquarters in Timisoara, were quartered in the new barracks east of the Lipova railroad station about 25 June 1950. Tanks and motor vehicles were seen on several vacant lots. [REDACTED] (5)

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Lugo]

7. No Soviet troops were seen in Lugo] prior to 13 June 1950. (6)
8. The area along the Arad-Oradea Mare (R 48/I 65) railroad line including the two towns, was placed off limits. On 25 June 1950, the area was declared a theater of operations [REDACTED] (7)

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Filiasi

9. Train [REDACTED] of 33 cars, each carrying two new, [REDACTED] ZIS trucks, 20 cars carrying Soviet troops, 2 boxcars with unidentified cargo and 1 car occupied by Soviet officers passed through Filiasi at 3 a.m. on 10 June 1950. (8) It was rumored that the train came from the U.S.S.R. and was bound for Timisoara. (9)

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Comments.

- (1) Previous reports did not mention any Rumanian or Soviet AF units in western Rumania during recent months. A report of 3 May 1950 stated that most of the Rumanian AF regiments were concentrated in the Bucharest-Brasov area, while still earlier reports said that the Soviet AF units were in the area between Bucharest and the Black Sea. [REDACTED] If the reported information was correct it probably referred to Soviet AF units since it is not believed that the Rumanian Air Force has at its disposal so many fighters and bombers which could move in such large formations. The lack of additional information precludes an opinion as to whether Soviet AF units stationed in Rumania held training flights with a lay-over in the Arad area or whether Soviet AF units had just arrived from the U.S.S. R.
- (2) The information possibly confirms Soviet troops in Timisoara. Soviet troops reported [REDACTED] in March 1950 and [REDACTED] in late May 1950. [REDACTED]

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(3) Possibly the construction of an ammunition depot.

(4) The information confirms, prior to late June 1950, [redacted] or Soviet troops in Arad in mid-April 1950. [redacted]

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Part [redacted] were previously reported from Constanta and Craiova and part of them were reported from Rumania for the first time. [redacted]

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(5) Soviet troops observed in Lipova [redacted] in January 1950 were apparently still there at the end of June 1950. [redacted]

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(6) Lugoj has never been reported to be occupied by Soviet troops.

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(7) Apparently a civilian railroad traffic restriction, possibly caused by military exercises in that area. A similar report was received [redacted] from the Constanta area. [redacted]

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(8) A similar train, probably carrying replacements and supplies, was observed [redacted] on 15 June 1950. [redacted]

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(9) The information in general agrees with the estimate that about one Soviet division is stationed in the Timisoara-Arad area, Banat, with the division headquarters probably located in Timisoara. [redacted]

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